

Chowan County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Monday August 6, 2007
6:00pm
1767 Chowan County Courthouse
117 East King Street

MINUTES

The Chowan County Board of Commissioners held its regular meeting on Monday, August 6, 2007, at 6:00 pm in the upstairs meeting room of the 1767 Chowan County Courthouse, 117 East King Street.

Present: Jimmy Alligood, Ralph Cole, Bill Gardner, Kenny Goodwin, Jerry Downum, Louis Belfield and Harry Lee Winslow. Also present were County Manager, Cliff Copeland; County Attorney, Peter Rascoe and County Clerk, Susanne Stallings.

Chairman Cole called the meeting to order and Commissioner Downum offered the invocation.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Alligood moved that the Consent Agenda be approved including the minutes from the July 9, 2007 Regular Meeting and the following budget amendments:

Budget Amendments

4370 EMS	increase	\$500	Training Grant
4710 Solid Waste	increase	\$2238	Scrap Tire Grant
3531 DSS	increase	\$1,123	New Monthly Caseworker Visit Allocation
4952 EFNEP	increase	\$6204	EFNEP program part-time to full-time
6132 Recreation	increase	\$178,900	NCDENR grant for canoe/kayak platforms @
Red Banks Farm			
7120 Water	decrease	\$270,000	Wireless Meters Purchase Delayed
4370 EMS	increase	\$1769	to correct prior budget amendment
4930 CDBG	increase	\$3540	CDBG Grant
4381 Animal Shelter	increase	\$2932	Additional Shelter Expenses
7120 Fund 21	increase	\$16,249	Storm Prep Fees Collected
4350 Planning	increase	\$1495	Public Nuisance Fees/Expenses

Tax Releases

J Campen	\$110.24	2 nd Floor is unfinished
M Hollowell	\$487.41	Land Use Code Added
RABCO Inc	\$178.21	Vehicle Traded
RMP of Edenton	\$125.10	Annexation
RMP of Edenton	\$725.56	Correct Error in Office
J Smith	\$272.87	Pasquotank
C Stokes	\$210.98	Vehicle Sold
D Netherton	\$107.24	Connecticut
S Rich	\$109.36	Vehicle Sold
T Rodriquez	\$172.50	Sold to father

Chairman Cole asked for all in favor, the motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Chairman Cole then noted the item of business and asked Holly Colombo, Chief Building Inspector present the next item.

Demolition

Chief Building Inspector, Holly Colombo requested permission for demolition of unsafe and dilapidated residence located at 631 Greenhall Road. He stated that all procedures have been followed and exhausted. Mr. Colombo provided photos on the structure. He noted that the owner has already removed the dilapidated mobile home that was previously on the property. He noted that the Fire Department is not interested in doing a controlled burn of the residence because of the poor condition of the structure. After discussion regarding the number of dwellings existing on the property, including whether the property owner actually lives in one of the other dwellings, Commissioner Alligood moved that the Board accept the contract for demolition of the dilapidated structure. Chairman Cole asked for all in favor, the motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Colombo requested permission on behalf of the owner, of demolition of an unsafe and dilapidated residence located at 933 Yeopim Road. Mr. Colombo said that the owner contacted him after receiving notice of a hearing and the owner requested that the County demolish the structure and promised to repay all costs incurred. Mr. Colombo provided a signed contract in the amount of \$5,250 for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Alligood moved that the Board accept the contract for demolition. Chairman Cole asked for all in favor, the motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS)

Mr. Colombo presented a report from Insurance Services Office (ISO) on Chowan County. Chowan County. He said that the County received a classification of Class 4 for commercial and industrial property that will apply to new buildings receiving a Certificate of Occupancy during or after the year 2007. He said that the classification review is done approximately every five years. Mr. Colombo said the grading is done on a scale of 1-10 with 10 being the worst grade. He said a 1 or 2 is difficult to obtain unless there is a licensed engineer on staff.

Mr. Copeland congratulated the Inspections Department on their improvements over the past few years.

Commissioner Belfield moved that the Commissioners accept the report. Chairman Cole asked for all in favor, the motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Chairman Cole then noted an amendment to the agenda and asked Mr. Les Kersey to give his presentation to the Board.

Presentation

Citizen, Les Kersey gave a presentation entitled "Chowan County Development, lessons learned and observations". He shared his thoughts and suggestions about requirement of bonding of

roads by DOT for all future subdivisions after lessons learned with the RiverSound Development.

Mr. Copeland said that DOT was present at the Technical Review Committee (TRC) and did not require the developer to bond the road. He assured Mr. Kersey that the County will be more aggressive in getting the road repaired.

Mr. Rascoe added that the DOT makes the decision to bond the roads. He said that the bonds will not be released until all infrastructures are in place for the interior roads, electricity, water and wastewater.

Chairman Cole thanked Mr. Kersey for his presentation. He asked for any public questions or comments.

Dave Barrick asked if the entire length of the road would be repaved.

Mr. Copeland said that his understanding of the process requires DOT to pack gravel first, then patch and later resurface the road.

Mr. Copeland then asked the Chair for permission to amend the agenda to allow Doug Belch, EMS Director to provide a report on the preliminary findings of the consultant's report of the need for additional fire protection in the Southern end of the County.

Fire Study Update

Mr. Belch provided background information on the consultant, Rick Hall. He said that he feels confident with Mr. Hall. He said that he and Chief Westbrook met with Mr. Hall and did a windshield tour of the County. He said that Mr. Hall has requested several items such as information on future developments, staffing, response times, budget and equipment needs. He said that this is a work in progress. Mr. Belch said that local residents such as Mr. Kersey have been included in the meeting process. He concluded that this review will include assessment of the entire County.

Update on Highway 32

Mr. Copeland read the following report into the record from DOT on the future of Highway 32:

From north of Chowan Middle School to SR 1224 (Rocky Hock Landing Road) under contract to Rose Brothers Contracting. State Forces recently completed widening along NC 32 at intersections of Cisco Road and Dillard's Mill Road to accommodate a turn lane section. Rose Brothers will install base for widening starting next Monday and should begin resurfacing after that from the Middle School to SR 1224

Contract C201823 was awarded to Barnhill Contracting for milling, resurfacing, and shoulder construction along NC 32 from 0.6 mi north of SR 1208 (Wildcat Road) by Nixon's Catering to SR 1224 (Rocky Hock Landing Road). The low bid was for \$1,838,659.60. The contractor will be allowed to begin work after September 10, 2007 with a completion date of June 30, 2008.

The final outstanding project is the widening of NC 32 from the Ford Company to Nixon's Catering to a three lane section. Right of Way and utilities should be finalized by October. We plan on going to contract this winter for construction next year.

Moratorium on River Herring

Mr. Copeland said that the Marine Fisheries Commission will be meeting in early September. He said that the Advisory Committee will be making a recommendation on quota limits at this meeting. He said that he may request Marshall Williford to attend a future Board meeting to provide updates.

Letters of Thanks

Mr. Copeland noted that there were two letters of thanks from James Bell and Pettigrew Regional Library in the Board packets.

Commissioner Tour Review

Mr. Copeland said that he felt that the tour of the future developments, Law Enforcement Center and Library both gave the Commissioners a feel for growth and was a informative tour.

Manager's Report

Mr. Copeland said that the Affordable Housing Committee will begin meeting soon. He said that Peter Rascoe and Wes Haskett met with Board of Directors at Cape Colony to discuss and tour nuisance issues.

Mr. Rascoe reported that some new nuisances in violation of the zoning ordinance were discovered and are being processed for abatement proceedings.

Mr. Copeland noted that a Safety Policy Committee is being formed to review and create policies with regards to Workman Comp issues. Mr. Copeland also said that the County is going to kick off the Recycle Program in September with refrigerator magnets and other items to notify the public of what can be recycled. He said that he will be providing an update soon on the Medicaid Relief and he would make a recommendation that the money be put in capital reserves for the schools.

Public Comment

Chairman Cole then opened the floor to public comment.

John Sawyer, resident of Indian Trail Road stated his concern about the caution light at Indian Trail and Drummonds Point Roads.

Mr. Copeland said that when there are several accidents and fatalities DOT reviews the area and produces a report on their findings of safety. He said that when such report is released, he will try to make it available on the County Website.

There being no further public comment, Chairman Cole closed the floor. He then noted that after a brief recess, the Board would go into Executive Session.

Executive Session

By motion of Commissioner Alligood, the regular meeting was recessed to conduct an Executive Session, to discuss a personnel issue.

Ayes 7

No 0

THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN SEALED

There being no further information to provide, the Executive Session adjourned and the regular meeting was adjourned by motion of Commissioner Alligood.

Ayes 7

No 0

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Ralph V Cole
Chairman

L. Susanne Stallings
Clerk to the Board

(SEAL)